

ALSAGER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Council Offices,
ALSAGER.MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1945.

The Chairman and Members of the Alsager Urban District.

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I beg to present my Annual Report for 1945.

A. STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area 2241 Acres.

Registrar General's estimate of the resident population in 1945 (latest)	5001
Estimated population in 1945	4730
Number of houses inhabited (end of 1945) according to the Rate Books	1450
Rateable Value	£29,505
Sum represented by a penny rate	£110

VITAL STATISTICS.Births.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Live Births	57	31	26
Still Births	2	0	2

DEATHS.

Within the area	39	22	17
Transferable from outside	22	13	9
TOTAL DEATHS ...	61		

Deaths from puerperal causes	0
Deaths of Infants under 1 year ...	5
Deaths from measles or } whooping cough }	0
Deaths from infantile } diarrhoea - under 2 years }	0

Ages at Death (including Transferable deaths)

Under 1 year	5	50 - 60 years	2
1 - 10 years	0	60 - 70 years	16
10 - 20	0	70 - 80 years	21
20 - 30	1	Over 80	9
30 - 40	1	Over 90	2
40 - 50	4	TOTAL DEATHS	61

/Causes.

Causes of death (including transforable deaths)

Carcinoma	7
Diseases of the Lungs	6
Diseases of the Heart	20
Diseases of the Kidneys	1
Prematurity	5
Senility	6
Broncho-Pneumonia	1
Arterio Sclerosis	3
Cerebral Haemorrhage	5
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0
Accidents	1
Murder	1
Suicide	1
Other Diseases	4
Total ...	<u>61</u>

3 Inquests were held during the year.

B. General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

1. Public Health Officers of the Authority:-

- (1) Medical Officer of Health
- (2) Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector (combined Offices)

The above have held office for 24 and 38 years respectively.

The Medical Officer of Health is part-time and the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector is a full time official.

There is a part-time District Medical Officer, (Public Assistance)

There is no Public Vaccinator resident in the area.

2. (a) Laboratory Facilities.

The usual arrangements are in force. The Pathological Department of the Royal Infirmary, Chester, is available for all forms of bacteriological examination.

2. (b) Ambulance Facilities.

The Ambulance Vehicle presented in the New Year, 1946 by the Boys of Alsager to the Urban District Council, will provide a much needed facility for taking patients to local hospitals from now onwards.

A Motor ambulance can also be obtained without undue delay from the neighbouring authorities, such as the Urban District of Kidsgrave, the Boroughs of Crowe or Newcastle, or the City of Stoke-on-Trent.

(c) Nursing in the Home.

A part-time District Nurse is employed, whose salary is maintained by Public subscription to the Alsager Sick Nursing Fund. This Society is affiliated with the County Association and is administered by a Committee of your Council, of which Mr. J.B. Harwood is the Secretary.

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There are no arrangements for nursing infectious diseases and none are required as the patients are removed to Congleton Isolation Hospital unless private isolation can be provided. No special arrangement is made for whooping cough and measles, which have to be looked after at home except in complicated cases of these diseases which may be admitted to the West Heath Sanatorium.

(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

These are as mentioned in previous reports.

Arrangements made under the Scabies Order 1941

A Scabies Clinic is established at the School Clinic on the Longview Housing Estate.

Treatments for children are carried out by the School Nurse. Adult cases are treated by the District Nurse. Facilities are provided by your Council.

VENEREAL cases can obtain treatment as follows:-

North Stafford Royal Infirmary

Males	Monday and Friday	6.30 p.m. - 8.0 p.m.
	Tuesday to Thursday	9.30 a.m. - 12 noon.
Females	Monday and Friday	5.0 p.m. - 6 p.m.
	Tuesday to Thursday	9.30 a.m. - 12 noon
	Saturday	10.0 a.m. - 12 noon

Municipal Treatment Centre, Wellosloy Street, Hanley.

Both Sexes	Monday and Thursday	2.30 p.m. - 7.0 p.m.
	Tuesday and Friday	10.30 a.m. - 1.0 p.m.
	Wednesday	2.30 p.m. - 5.0 p.m.

CREWE.

8, Hartman Street, Crewe. Telephone 2019

Doctors Clinics

Males and Females	Tuesday	9.30 - 11.30 a.m.
	Friday	5.0 - 7.0 p.m.

Intermediate Treatment.

Males	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday	
	Friday and Saturday	9.0 - 11.30 a.m.
	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday	5.0 - 7.0 p.m.
Females	Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday	2.0 - 4.0 and 5.0 - 7.0 p.m.
	Tuesday	9.0 - 11.30 a.m.
	Saturday	9.0 - 11.30 a.m.

(c) Hospitals. Subsidised by the Sanitary Authority or by the County Council.

- (1) Fever. The West Heath Sanatorium, Nr. Congleton. Here accommodation has been sufficient and arrangements quite satisfactory
- (2) Smallpox. There is a building for the accommodation of this at Aycliffe (not open at present).
- (3) Tuberculosis. The Cheshire Joint Sanatorium, Nr. Market Drayton.
- (4) Orthopaedic. An Orthopaedic Clinic is held at the Crews Memorial Hospital to deal with these cases, at which an Orthopaedic Specialist attends at intervals.

Hospital treatment at the North Staffs Royal Infirmary and at the Cripples Aid Society Hospital is also available.

- (5) Mental Disease. The County Mental Hospital at Macclosfield.
- (6) There is no special Maternity Hospital for the district: Cases of puerperal fever are received by the North Staffs Royal Infirmary and provision for specialist and hospital services is made for them under the County Council Scheme.

Provision may also be made by the County Council for certain maternity cases to be received into Linden Grange Maternity Hospital, Crews.

- (7) North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary provides all other forms of treatment and is subscribed to by voluntary contributors and a general contributory scheme from residents in the district.

Midwifery Services.

A Maternity Nurse, appointed by the County Council, provides domiciliary service in the district, under the County Council Scheme (Midwives Act 1936).

She resides within the district of Alsager.

Now Mortuary.

The premises at the rear of Prospect House have been adapted for mortuary purposes by your Council. Much improved mortuary premises are to be provided early in the New Year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

- (1) (a) The quality of the water has been satisfactory.
- (b) All the needs of the district were met without resource to the obtaining of water from outside authorities, although it was found necessary at times to curtail the supply of water to the Royal Ordnance Factory. Reconditioning of No. 1 Pump will have to be considered in 1943.
- (c) A Joint Water Board for the Mid Cheshire area, including this district is being considered and I understand that your Council are opposing the proposition.

(2) Analysis.

- (a) No analysis has been taken during the year, but the water has in the past always proved to be of a high degree of purity.

(3) Plumbo-solvent action.

This was reported upon in 1944.

(4) Contamination.

None.

- (5) Only 6 houses have no piped supply and other dwelling houses are supplied direct from the public water mains and none of these are supplied by stand-pipe.

Sewage Disposal Works.

The three works maintained by your Council have been working satisfactorily throughout the year.

Refuse Dump.

This is semi-controlled and no complaints were received.

Farms and Dairies.

Inspections were made and only minor cases of neglect were dealt with.

Sanitary Inspections.

- (a) Total number of inspections made ... 311
- (b) Total number of notices served ... 117
- This includes housing and water.
- Informal notices were sufficient to have the defects remedied.

D. HOUSING.

Housing Statistics.

Cases of overcrowding.	0
Total number of houses inspected for defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts	30
Number of informal notices served	17
" " formal " "	0
" " defects remedied (21 incl 5 forward from 1944	21
" " " carried forward	1
" " houses found not reasonably fit for habitation	0
" " houses unfit for habitation	0

E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Shop premises and premises where food is produced were inspected and no defects were found.

Food unfit for human consumption has been condemned in numerous minor cases.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

The Royal Infirmary at Chester carry out this work if required.

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F. PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

There were 15 cases of notifiable disease, under the Public Health Act (including tuberculosis) during the year, as follows:-

Scarlet Fever	2
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	6
Tuberculosis (Non-pulmonary)	2
Suspected Enteric	1
Cerebro spinal fever	1
Pneumonia	3
	<u>15</u>

Under the Measles and Whooping Cough Regulations, there were 4 cases of measles and 8 cases of whooping cough, notified during the year.

The cases of scarlet fever were all removed to Congleton Isolation Hospital. They all recovered.

Tuberculosis.

The undermentioned specimens of sputum received by the County Laboratory from persons resident in the area, were examined, with the results shown:-

Positive2 Negative18 TOTAL20

New Cases and Mortality during 1945.

New cases 8 Deaths in the area0

Age Periods	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1
1 - 5
5 - 15	1
15 - 25	1	1	1
25 - 35	3
35 - 45
45 - 55	1
55 - 65
65 and upwards
TOTALS	5	1	2

Two of the cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were transfers from outside the area.

/Immunisation

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

Your Council has adopted the provision of facilities for immunisation against Diphtheria and organisms of the Typhoid Group (Circular 2230 from the Ministry of Health)

The Scheme is entirely voluntary: the issue of the vaccine is free and the expense of administration rests with your Council.

Number of children completely immunised against Diphtheria during the year 1945 :-

80

Record cards are kept in all cases.

Cancer.

The prevalence of Cancer is not abnormal. There were 7 deaths from it during 1945.

Disinfection of Premises, which have been exposed to infection, is carried out by the Local Authority. Bedding, clothing etc, are removed to West Heath Sanatorium for disinfection.

A Motor Ambulance is provided for the conveyance of patients to and from the Sanatorium.

I am,
Yours faithfully,

HENRY P. HARPUR, M.D.

Medical Officer of Health.

October, 1946.